

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

SATELLITE BROADCAST RECEIVING AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

INSA17  
This is a Continuation In Part of Application No. 08/394,234. This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/001,484, now U.S. Patent No 6,122,482, which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 08/838,677, now U.S. Patent No. 5,805,975; which is a continuation-in-part of application Serial No. 394,234, filed February 22, 1995, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates generally to a satellite broadcasting receiving and distribution system, and more particularly to a broadcasting receiving and distribution system, that will allow for the transmission of vertical and horizontal (or left-hand circular and right-hand circular) polarization signals to be transmitted simultaneously via a single coaxial cable.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Satellite broadcasting has become very popular throughout the United States. Conventionally, broadcast signals are transmitted through an artificial satellite at very high frequencies. These frequencies are generally amplified and are processed by a particular device after received by an antenna or antennas and prior to application to a conventional home television set or the like.

Typically, broadcasting systems comprise an outdoor unit generally associated with the antenna, and an indoor unit, generally associated with the television set, or the like. Both units, indoor and outdoor, are coupled via a coaxial cable.



009760-091300

configuration provides for one coaxial cable to be utilized, but does not provide for the vertical and horizontal signals to be transmitted simultaneously, ~~but rather, selectively.~~

Systems have been attempted for transferring two frequencies on the same coaxial cable. Frequencies of the same polarity can easily be transmitted via a single coaxial cable, however, transmitting two signals, from two sources, each of different polarities can be a challenge. In some satellite configuration systems, once a timing diagram is plotted for the signals to be transmitted, it is seen that a forbidden path occurs between frequencies of 950 MHz and 1070 MHz. Inherently prohibiting the frequencies within that range to be transmitted successfully. Hence, it is desirable to obtain a system which will not allow for conversion to occur at frequencies of the forbidden conversion.

As seen in German Patent Number DE4126774-A1, signals can ~~be transmitted~~ fall within the range of the forbidden path, thereby, providing for a non-working system. Additionally, this product, like the assembly disclosed in Japanese Application No. 63-293399 ~~both discloses~~ a system which receives a single signal and ~~demultiplexed~~ demultiplexes it ~~them~~ into vertical and horizontal polarized signals. These systems, are complex and require a numerous amount of components in order to employ the invention. This increase in components will inherently cause an increase in component failure. Further, these systems fail to disclose a means of reconvertng the signals into their original frequency and polarity, a necessity for satellite systems. Consequently, the system provides ~~providing~~ a signal which will not maintain its respective polarity.

Accordingly, it is seen that none of these previous efforts provide the benefits intended with the present invention, such as providing a broadcasting receiving and distribution system that will allow for the transmission of vertical and horizontal (or left-

hand circular and right-hand circular) polarization signals to be transmitted successfully and simultaneously via a single coaxial cable. Additionally, prior techniques do not suggest the present inventive combination of component elements as disclosed and claimed herein. the present invention achieves its intended purposes, objectives and advantages over the prior art device through a new, useful and unobvious combination of component elements, which is simple to use, with the utilization of a minimum number of functioning parts, at a reasonable cost to manufacture, assemble, test and by employing only readily available material.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system that will permit for the transmission of vertical and horizontal or let-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals simultaneously via a single coaxial cable. The system of the present invention will accommodate two different polarity commands from two or more different sources at the same time. This satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system of the present invention will provide for the signals received from the satellite to be converted to standard frequencies so as to permit for signals to travel via existing wiring which the present day amplifiers can transport in buildings, high-rises, hospitals, and the like, so that satellite broadcasting can be viewed by numerous individuals by way of a single satellite antenna.

The satellite broadcast system of the present invention comprises a satellite antenna which receives the polarized signals, a head-in frequency processor for converting the polarized signals, a single co-axial cable for transmitting the converted signal, a head-out receiver processor for re-converting the signals to their original



Still another object of the present invention, to be specifically enumerated herein, is to provide a satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system in accordance with the preceding objects and which will conform to conventional forms of manufacture, be of simple construction and easy to use so as to provide a system that would be economically feasible, long lasting and relatively trouble free in operation.

Although there have been many inventions related to satellite broadcast receiving and distribution systems, none of the inventions have become sufficiently compact, low cost, and reliable enough to become commonly used. The present invention meets the requirements of the simplified design, compact size, low initial cost, low operating cost, ease of installation and maintainability, and minimal amount of training to successfully employ the invention.

The foregoing has outlined some of the more pertinent objects of the invention. These objects should be construed to be merely illustrative of some of the more prominent features and application of the intended invention. Many other beneficial results can be obtained by applying the disclosed invention in a different manner or modifying the invention within the scope of the disclosure. Accordingly, a fuller understanding of the invention may be had by referring to the detailed description of the preferred embodiments in addition to the scope of the invention defined by the claims taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating the components used for the satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a block diagram representing a first embodiment of the head-in frequency processor and two embodiments of the head-out frequency processor used for the satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Figure 3a is a schematic diagram of the down converter used for the satellite broadcast signal receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Figure 3b is a schematic diagram of the up converter used for the satellite broadcast signal receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Figure 4 is a block diagram of the second embodiment of the satellite broadcast signal receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Figure 5 is a block diagram of the third embodiment of the satellite broadcast signal receiving and distribution system according to the present invention.

Similar reference numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

As illustrated in figure 1, the satellite system 10 of the present invention includes a receiving satellite 12 that will transmit signals (Vertical-polarized signals and Horizontal-polarized signals or left-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals) to a head-in equipment frequency processor 14. It is at this head-in equipment frequency processor 14 where the signals are received simultaneously and then transmitted via a single coaxial cable 16 to the head-out receiver processor 18. This will enable for the single coaxial cable 16 to transmit signals of two different polarities and frequencies simultaneously. From the head-out frequency processor the signals are

reconverted to its original state and then transmitted to a source 20. As seen in figure 1, the two different polarities (Vertical-polarized signals and Horizontal-polarized signals or left-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals) are transported to the source via separate cables 22a and 22b, respectively.

The system of the present invention includes separate embodiments, and the first embodiment is illustrated in figure 2. As seen in the first embodiment of the present invention 10a, there is shown a head-in frequency processor 14a couple to either a first head-out frequency processor 18a or a second head-out frequency processor 18b.

It is noted that figure 2 illustrates ~~ed~~ the head-in processor 14a to be coupled to two separate head-out processors 18a and 18b, respectively. This is shown for illustrative purposes only. In actuality, only one head-out receiver processor is utilized with the head-in processor 14a. The type and embodiment used for the head-out receiver processor is dependent to the combination of the satellite receiver and source that is utilized.

As seen in figure 2, the head-in equipment frequency processor 14a will receive two signals or two separate polarities and converted them to separate frequencies for enabling transmission via a single coaxial cable 16a**b**.

A low-noise block converter (LNB) 24 will receive the signals from the satellite 12. This LNB 24 is conventional and is used for amplifying the respective polarized signals (Vertical-polarized signals and Horizontal-polarized signals or left-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals). Accordingly, after signals are received, they pass the low-noise block converter 24, to provide for the signals to enter the head-in



equipment frequency processor 14a (illustrated in figure 2 as dashed lines) via conduits 26a and 26b, respectively.

The head-in equipment frequency processor 14a, illustrated in figure 2, provides for the signals to be converted, via converters 28 and 30, to the frequencies which the present day amplifiers can transport. In this stage of the system, the object is to convert the signals of one polarity up (via converter 30) and to convert the signals of second ~~polarization~~ polarity down (via converter 28). This will render the converted signals to be transmitted without emerging into the forbidden frequency conversion.

From the conduits 26a and 26b, the signals are transmitted to a first converter or down converter 28 and a second converter or up converter 30. These frequency converters, 28 and 30, respectively, convert the entered frequencies to a frequency which present day amplifiers can transport. The converters will be discussed in further detail in figures 3a and 3b. The utilization of two converters permit for the acceptance of two signals or polarized transponders that are of a different frequency.

In the down converting means 28, the transponder is converted down to a specified frequency. The specified frequency is the frequency that is required for the present day amplifiers for transportation. The newly converted frequencies are amplified through the amplifying means 32a. At means 32a, the converted frequencies are amplified so not to create second harmonics. These signals are then transferred to a conventional four way splitter 34a.

In the up converting means 30, the transponders are converted up to a specified frequency. The converted frequencies then are converted down via a down converter 36.



signals enter the processor via conduit 16b. The conduit 16b is coupled to a conventional four (4) way splitter 34b. A conventional phase lock loop (PLL) receiver 56a is coupled to the splitter 34b to permit for the signals to be locked to the proper and desired frequencies. From the splitter 34b the first frequency is transmitted to a first converter 58a in order to permit for this signals or transponders to be converted up to a specified frequency. This up converted signal from the first converter or up converter 58a is then transmitted to the satellite receiver by way of a conduit 22b.

The second frequencies are transmitted to a first or up converter 52a and then are ~~transmuted~~ transported to a second or down converter 54a. This will permit for the signals to be converted to the desired frequency. This second or down converter is coupled to the satellite receiver 21 via conduit 22a. The signals from down converter 54a and from up converter 58a are in the original state, both frequency and polarity, when transmitted from the satellite to the head-in processor 14a, via lines 26a and 26b. The re-converted signals, frequencies and polarity in its original state, are ~~is~~ transmitted to the satellite receiver 21 via lines 22a and 22b. The satellite receiver 21 is coupled to a source 20 (illustrated as a television) to provide for proper transmission of the signals. The transmission line between the satellite receiver 21 and source 20 is illustrated but not labeled.

Hence, it is seen that the head-in processor converted the signals to different frequencies ~~frequency~~ to enable the transmission of two separate polarized signals via a single co-axial cable to a head-out processor. From the head-out processor, the signals are re-converted to their original state, which was received via lines 26a and 26b. For example, with satellite systems, frequencies typically range between 950-1450 MHz. If



From the splitter 34c, the first signal of a first polarity is transmitted to a first or up converted 52b and then is transmitted to a second or down converter 54b. The conversion of the signals from up to down provides the benefit of converting the frequency without any mishap or error. This method of conversion will avoid the forbidden conversion area as well as provide for the original received frequency and polarity of the signals.

The signals of the second frequency and second polarity are transmitted to an up converter 58b which will inherently convert the signals to its original received frequency while maintaining its polarity. A polarity switch 60 is connected to converters 52b, 54b, and 58b for coupling the head-out processor to the satellite receiver via a single cable 22c and a joining means, which is a four way splitter 34d. The satellite receiver 21 is connected by way of a line (illustrated, but not labeled) to a source 20. In this embodiment, the switch 60 is used to determine which polarity will enter into the head-out processor 18b.

In the embodiments shown above, the satellite receiver 21 and source 20 are conventional components and as such, their schematics are not shown in further detail. The up and down converters used in the embodiment above will be discussed in further detail in figures 3a and figure 3b. Figure 3a represents the schematic rendering of the down converters (28, 36, 54a, and 54b) and figure 3b represents the schematic rendering of the up converters (30, 52a, 52b, 58a, and 56b).

As seen in the schematic diagram of figure 3a, the signal enters the down converter via line L1. The entered signal passes through a first capacitor C1 which is coupled to an amplifier AMP. After passing the amplifier AMP, the signal passes a

second capacitor C2 before entering a first low pass filter LPF1. This first LPF1 is coupled to a mixer which is coupled to a second LPF2. This second LPF2 is connected to a third capacitor C3 which is coupled to a second choke CH2. The mixer is also connected to an oscillator OSC. The oscillator is coupled to a ~~PPL~~PLL. The first capacitor C1 is also connect to a first choke CH1~~2~~. Capacitors C, C1, C2, C3 are coupled to the amplifier, oscillator, phase lock ~~loop~~loop PPL, and the second low pass filter. Resistors R are coupled to the amplifier, oscillator, first low pass filter and mixer. Chokes are also coupled in series with capacitors ~~C~~to provide for the chokes to be parallel with the amplifier AMP and the second low pass filter, respectively. As seen the chokes CH1 and CH2 (inductors) and capacitors C are a DC bypass filter network and provide a DC path and enables passing DC power to the antenna electronics.

The up converter is disclosed in figure 3b. As seen in this drawings, the signal enters the up converter via a first line L2. The converter further includes an amplifier AMP that is coupled to a first low pass filter LP1. The amplifier is also coupled to an oscillator OSC. The oscillator and the first low pass filter are connected to a mixer. This mixer is coupled to a high pass filter HPF. The oscillator is also connected with a phase lock loop receiver PLL. A second amplifier AMP2 is coupled to the high pass filter HPF. A second low pass filter LPF2 is coupled to the second amplifier. Capacitors ~~C~~ are coupled to the first amplifier, first lower pass filter, and a ~~the~~second amplifier. Resistors R are coupled to other first and second amplifiers, oscillator, first low pass filter, and mixer. Chokes are also used in this circuit. The fist choke is coupled to a capacitor which is coupled to the first amplifier. The second ~~chock~~choke is coupled to the phase lock loop.

008760-CH9960

Simplifying the ~~system~~ head out processor described above, will provide another ~~second~~ embodiment for the satellite broadcast receiving and distribution system. This ~~second~~ system is illustrated in further detail in figure 4. This embodiment simplifies the above described embodiments and also provides a device which avoids the forbidden path. Alteration for this embodiment occurs in the head-in equipment frequency processor 14b and the head-out frequency processor 18c.

As with the first embodiment, a low-noise block converter (LNB) 24 will receive the signals from the satellite 12. This LNB 24, as stated previously, is conventional and is used for amplifying the respective polarized signals (Vertical-polarized signals and Horizontal-polarized signals or left-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals). Hence, after signals are received, they pass the low-noise block converter 24, to provide for the signals to enter the head-in equipment frequency processor 14b (illustrated in figure 4 as dashed lines) via conduits 26a and 26b, respectively.

The head-in equipment frequency processor 14b<sub>e</sub>, provides for the signals to be converted, via converters 28 and 30, as identified for the first embodiment. Thereby providing a system which includes frequencies that the present day amplifiers can transport. In this stage of the system, the object is to convert the signals of one polarity up (via converter 30) and to convert the signals of second polarization down (via converter 28).

From the conduits 26a and 26b, the signals are transmitted to a first converter or down converter 28 and a second converter or up converter 30. These frequency converters, 28 and 30, respectively, convert the entered frequencies to a frequency which

present day amplifiers can transport. The converters have been discussed in further detail in figures 3a and 3b. The utilization of two converters permit for the acceptance of two signals or polarized transponders that are of a different frequency.

In the down converting means 28, the transponder is converted down to a specified frequency. The specified frequency is the frequency that is required for the present day amplifiers for transportation. Though not illustrated, the newly converted frequencies are amplified through the amplifying means, as illustrated in figure 2 via element 32a. At the amplifying means 32, the converted frequencies are amplified so not to create second harmonics. These signals are then transferred to a conventional two-way splitter 34c.

In the up converting means 30, the transponders are converted up to a specified frequency. The converted signals are transferred to the two-way splitter 34c in order to combine the frequency of the amplified signals and frequency. To synchronized the system, the frequencies from the phase lock loop (PLL) transmitter 38a are transmitted to the splitter 34c.

From the splitter 34c, the signals are passed through a conventional tilt and gain 62. This will permit for the dual frequencies from the satellite dish 12 to be transmitted simultaneously via a single coaxial cable 16ab. Dependent upon the length of the cable, an optional conventional amplifier 42 can be coupled thereto. Power from a power source 44 is inserted into the lines via a power inserter 46. The signals are amplified, as needed, with additional amplifiers 48. It is noted that the amplifiers are optional and are dependent to the distance that the head-in frequency processor 14b is located from the



head-out frequency processor 18c. The power supply and power source 11 energize the head-in frequency processor 14ba.

From the single coaxial cable 16ab, the signals are adjusted via a tap 50a to permit for the appropriate decibels that are required for the head-out processor 18c~~18a or 18b~~.

The head-out frequency processor used for the head-in processor 14b is illustrated in by way of dash line 18c. As seen in this embodiment, the simultaneously transmitted signals enter the processor via conduit 16b. The conduit 16b is coupled to a conventional two (2) way splitter 34d. A conventional phase lock loop (PLL) receiver 56a is coupled to the splitter 34d to permit for the signals to be locked to the proper and desired frequencies. From the splitter 34d the first frequency is transmitted to a first converter 52c in order to permit for the signals or transponders to be converted up to a specified frequency. ~~This up~~The converted signals from the first converter or up converter 52c ~~is~~ are then transmitted to the satellite receiver by way of a conduit 22a.

The second frequencies are transmitted to a down converter 54c. This will permit for the signals to be converted to the desired frequency. This second or down converter is coupled to the satellite receiver 21 via conduit 22b. The signals from down converter 54c and from up converter 52c are in the original state, both frequency and polarity, when transmitted from the satellite to the head-in processor 14b, via lines 26a and 26b. The re-converted signals, frequencies and polarity in its original state, are~~is~~ transmitted to the satellite receiver 21 via lines 22a and 22b. The satellite receiver 21 is coupled to a source 20 (illustrated as a television) to provide for proper transmission of the signals.

The transmission line between the satellite receiver 21 and source 20 is illustrated but not labeled.

Hence, it is seen that the head-in processor converted the signals to different frequencies ~~frequency~~ to enable the transmission of two separate polarized signals via a single co-axial cable to a head-out processor. From the head-out processor, the signals are re-converted to their original state, which was received via lines 26a and 26b. The above identified embodiment is ideal for long distant use, i.e. exceeding 1000 feet. However, for shorter distance, i.e. less than 1000 feet, the components can be simplified again to provide for a device which is ideal for use in apartments or the like.

As seen in figure 5, the present invention includes the head-in equipment frequency processor 14c and the head-out frequency processor 18d.

As with the ~~first and second~~ previous embodiments, a low-noise block converter (LNB) 24 will receive the signals from the satellite 12. This LNB 24, as stated previously, is conventional and is used for amplifying the respective polarized signals (Vertical-polarized signals and Horizontal-polarized signals or left-hand circular and right-hand circular polarization signals). Hence, after signals are received, they pass the low-noise block converter 24, to provide for the signals to enter the head-in equipment frequency processor 14c (illustrated in figure 5 as dashed lines) via conduits 26a and 26b, respectively.

As seen, this head-in equipment frequency processor 14c is simplified. The head-in equipment frequency processor 14c, provides for signals of one frequency to be converted, up via converter 30, as identified for the first embodiment. Thereby providing

a system which includes frequencies that the present day amplifiers can transport. In this stage of the system, the object is to convert the signals of one polarity up (via converter 306). The signal of the second polarity is amplified via conventional amplifier 32a.

From the conduits 26a and 26b, the signals are transmitted to a first converter or ~~down-up~~ converter 52d-30 and an amplifier 32a. The down converters have been discussed in further detail in figure 3a.

From the amplifier and up converter, the signals are transferred to a conventional hybrid mixer 34a36. From the mixer, the signals pass a ~~diplexer~~ diplexer 64. ~~Exiting~~ Signals exit the diplexer can occur via a single co-axial cable 16a.

From the single coaxial cable 16a, the signals can be adjusted via a tap (illustrated, but not labeled) to permit for the appropriate decibels that are required for the head-out processor 18d.

The head-out frequency processor used for the head-in processor 14c is illustrated in by way of dash line 18d. As seen in this embodiment, the simultaneously transmitted signals enter the processor via conduit 16b. The conduit 16b is coupled to a conventional mixer 36b. ~~to the proper and desired frequencies.~~ From the mixer 36b the first frequency is transmitted to an amplifier 32b and the second frequency of a different polarity is transferred to a down converter 52d for converting the frequency to its original state.

The re-converted signals, frequencies and polarity in its original state, is transmitted to the satellite receiver 21 via lines 22a and 22b. The satellite receiver 21 is coupled to a source 20 (illustrated as a television) to provide for proper transmission of

the signals. The transmission line between the satellite receiver 21 and source 20 is illustrated but not labeled.

Hence, it is seen that the head-in processor converted the signals to different frequency to enable the transmission of two separate polarized signals via a single coaxial cable to a head-out processor. From the head-out processor, the signals are re-converted to their original state, which was received via lines 26a and 26b. The above

The satellite system of the present invention will permit for two signals of different frequency and polarities to travel simultaneously via a single coaxial cable. The use of this will provide for a satellite system that is versatile, economical and compact. The usage of the single cable permits for a system that can accept satellite broadcasting in places that were previously render impossible. These places include mid/high-rise office buildings, condominiums, hospitals, schools, etc. The unique design and configuration enables the signals to be transmitted via the existing wiring of the buildings. The only renovations that may need to be done is the upgrading of the existing amplifiers.

While the invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to an embodiment thereof, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes in form and detail may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.